Overhauling of STC and MMTC

33. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to overhaul the two joint public sector trading companies, State Trading Corpoiation and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corpoiation Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the changes contemplated to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) With the liberalisation of the economy and decanalisation of most of the items of imports and exports, the turnover of both STC and MMTC has been showing a declining trend. In order to reorient and restructure the STC and MMTC in a manner consistent with liberalisation and a competitive environment, a number of measures has been initiated which inter-alia include the engagement of a consultant to study and make appro priate recommendations on the organisational structure and other related issues of these organisations, and formulation of strategies and diversification plans by the corporations themselves for adapting to the new environment.

34. *[Transferred to 30th April,* 1993]

Modifications on Dunkel Draft

35. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Government have proposed any modifications in the Dunkel Draff, and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) During the discussions held in Geneva in December, 1992, India sought changes, improvements and understandings on, inter-alia, the following :—

(i) In *Textiles* on the back loading of the draft agreement.

(ii) In *trips* on compulsory licensing importation as working, clean transition period, patenting of genetic material and sui generis, system of protection for plant varieties.

(iii) In *Agriculture* on food stocking, public distribution and minimum market access; and

(iv) In *Services* on movement of skilled and professional pavsonvkci.

Terror Network in Indo-Russian Trade

36. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a new terror network operating in Moscow which has spread its tentacles in the realm of Indo-Russian trade;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indian exporters are resigned to dealing with the mafia and the price is virtually determined by the mafia;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) what action Government have taken in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) While some reports have been received about the deteriorating law and order situation in the Russian Federation, it can not be said to have affected the Indo-Russian trade. Incidents of assaults on Indian businessmen are taken up immediately by our Embassy at Moscow with the concerned authorities for redres-sal.

Export of Shrimp

37. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that shrimp exports in terms of quantity has remained stagnant in 1992-93;

(b) what is the quantity of shrimp exported during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(c) what was the foreign exchange realised from exports in the above two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) There was 8.89% decrease in the quantity of shrimp exported during 1992-93 as compared to the previous year as may be seen from the figures given below :—

Year	Quantity (Metric Tonnes)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1992-93	69381	1120
1991-92	76151	979

(Source : MPEDA, Kochi)

Production of cigrattes

38. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of cigarettes produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number out of them consumed domestically and exported, year-wise; and

(c) what steps have been taken to augment export of cigarettes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS TRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COM MERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) & (b) Figures of produc tion and consumption for all the three years are not readily available. They will be compiled and laid on the Table of the House.

As for exports, figures are given below :

Year	*Export (in billion pieces)*
1989-90	0.7
1990-91	4.4
1991-92	1.7

(c) Steps taken to increase exports of cigarettes include :

— Sending trade delegations.

— Participation in international exhi- bitions.

— Pursuing with Governments through Joint Committee Meetings etc. to import cigarettes.

— Promoting Export Oriented Units for export of cigarettes.

Unit value realisation of FCV Tobacco

39. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the unit value realisation of F.C.V. Tobacco to our growers and what are the corresponding figures to their counter parts in other tobacco producing countries; and

(b) what steps have been taken to enhance the unit value realisation to our growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON^ SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS TRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COM MERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Unt value realisation by the growers in the auctions in India in 1991 *tic* 1992 was as under :

Year	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka (Rs. /Kg.)
1991	33.00	42.13
1992	27.63	26.52